

National Committee; the Committee to Elect President Clinton; the National Democratic Steering Committee; the Union City Day Care Board of Directors; the Union City A.B.C. Board; and Gore 2000.

For his continued and selfless public service to the community, he has received numerous honors and awards, including the Human Values Award, Man of the Year Award (1993, 1995, 1998); the Babe Ruth League Award (1997); the Summit Avenue Merchant Association Award (1998); the Duarte, Sanchez & Mella Award (1996); and the Hispanic Law Enforcement Society of North Hudson, NJ Achievement Award (1998).

In 1991, it was my distinct honor to appoint Rafael Fraguela to be the President of the School Board of Union City. I am extremely proud of his record, his dedication to public service, and his many achievements since that first appointment. Over the years, I have cherished his friendship as an educator, school board president, and commissioner. More importantly, he is an invaluable asset to the residents of New Jersey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rafael Fraguela for his leadership and for his important contributions to New Jersey and to the Hispanic community:

**WHITESIDE SCHOOL CELEBRATES
ITS 150TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Whiteside School District in Belleville, Illinois which is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. This school has a rich history and has enhanced the Belleville area by consistently demonstrating excellence in teaching.

Mr. William Lot Whiteside, the original owner, was granted land by former President James Monroe in 1817. He deeded the one-acre property to school trustees in 1843 for \$100 and a one-room schoolhouse, named after the Whiteside family, was built. A formal school district was established in 1865. At the turn of the century, a second room was added to the school enabling this two room schoolhouse to serve children from Belleville to Shiloh.

A new school was built in 1958 on five acres of land acquired from the Whiteside family and placed directly in front of the old two room schoolhouse. The new school consisted of three classrooms, a multi-purpose area, and an office. Subsequent additions took place in 1965, 1973, 1979, 1987, and 1996 to meet the needs of its growing student body.

With enrollment currently over 1,000 students, the Whiteside School District is now expanding to a second building which will stand on a hill once occupied by Mississippian Indians. Middle school students will occupy the new facility, roughly one mile from the original school site. The new building is scheduled to open in 2002.

Since starting as a one-room schoolhouse, the Whiteside School has operated continu-

ously for 150 years and has been producing students that make and will continue to make a significant contribution to not only Southwestern Illinois but the nation as well. Their impressive level of achievement and accomplishment for a century and a half is a milestone for the school district and the education profession as a whole. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in expressing our appreciation to the Whiteside School District for its dedication to service and our very best wishes as it celebrates its 150th year.

**NEW YORK TIMES: INDIA CLEARLY
RESPONSIBLE FOR CHITHI
SINGHPORA MASSACRE**

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on December 31, the New York Times Magazine ran a good article on the massacre of 35 Sikhs that took place in Chithi Singhpura in March while President Clinton was visiting India. The article makes it clear that "Everyone knows who did it" and that the responsibility rests squarely on the Indian government. The Times writer, Barry Bearak, the newspaper's bureau chief in New Delhi, wrote that "Among the careful preparations for the historic occasion were a painstaking cleanup around the Taj Mahal, a reconnoitering for wild tigers he might glimpse on a V.I.P. safari and the murder of 35 Sikh villagers in a place called Chittisinghpura."

I will not place the entire article into the RECORD, Mr. Speaker, because it is very long, but I recommend it to my colleagues. Bearak interviewed several people who were witnesses to the massacre or who lost family members. It is very clear from his interviews that the Indian government is responsible. This confirms the findings of two independent investigations, one by the International Human Rights Organization, which is based in Ludhiana, and another jointly conducted by the Movement Against State Repression and the Punjab Human Rights Organization.

This is typical of the Indian government. The Indian newspaper Hitavada reported in November 1994 that the Indian government paid the late Governor of Punjab, Surendra Nath, \$1.5 billion to organize terrorist activities in Punjab and Kashmir. The book "Soft Target", written by two Canadian journalists, proved that the Indian government shot down its own airliner in 1985, killing 329 innocent people, to create an image of Sikhs as terrorists.

The article noted that the killers were dressed in the regulation uniform of the Indian Army. Some had their faces painted in celebration of the Hindu holiday of Holi. They rounded up 37 Sikhs, one of whom escaped and one of whom survived. The other 35 were murdered in cold blood. They called out the parting phrase "Jai mata di," a Hindu phrase in praise of a Hindu goddess.

Clearly the Indian government was trying to create a bad image of the Kashmiri freedom fighters for the President's visit. It looks like President Clinton was right when he called the region "the most dangerous place in the world."

Bearak came to Chithi Singhpura in the company of a businessman, who is an associate of a fellow reporter. "So you want to know the truth?" the businessman said to Bearak. "Don't you know the truth can get these people killed?" The Indian government had killed five Muslims, claiming they were Pakistanis responsible for the massacre, but at least one village resident said that he recognized the remains of one of his relatives. One of the men killed was a man of 60. The Indian government has subsequently admitted that the so-called "militants" they killed were in fact innocent. Now they have made another arrest in the case. This is also equally dubious. The 18-year-old that they arrested was "intensively interrogated," according to the article, which usually means torture.

At the close of the article, Bearak writes that "Everyone knows about this crime. The Indian Army did it." The evidence makes it clear that this is true. Why should such a country receive any support from the U.S. government? Let us stop our aid to this terrorist regime and let us openly support self-determination for Punjab, Khalistan, for Kashmir, and for all the nations of South Asia.

**THE RETIREMENT OF MR. ED
O'CONNOR**

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a great American who has played a major role in our nation's space program. Ed O'Connor was selected in 1990 to lead the newly established Spaceport Florida Authority, and he retired late last year. It was his leadership, vision, and tireless energy that enabled Florida to preserve and secure its place in the world as "the place for space."

Spaceport Florida Authority is a recognized leader among state spaceports, and it also plays a critical role in recruiting new space-related industries to Florida. Through Ed O'Connor's leadership, the Authority gained international recognition as the first state agency to conduct space launches from its facilities, and has enabled historic partnerships between the State of Florida, NASA, the Air Force, and the commercial and academic space communities.

His service to the space program, however, started long before then. He has a long and distinguished record of service to our nation in the United States Air Force, including directing the Search, Recovery, and Reconstruction Team supporting the Presidential Commission investigating the *Challenger* accident. Upon retiring from the Air Force in 1987, Colonel Ed O'Connor joined Martin Marietta as manager of the Commercial Titan Launch Program.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Florida's Space Coast in the United States Congress, and I am honored to represent distinguished citizens such as Ed O'Connor who have given so much to our nation. While he will be retired, anyone who knows Ed doesn't expect him to slow down one bit. I'm certain he will continue to be a great source of knowledge and ideas for the nation's space goals.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN J.
HAWKINS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Stephen J. Hawkins, retiring Postmaster of Fresno, California. He has announced his retirement after serving the public for more than 35 years with the United States Postal Service.

Stephen arrived in Fresno with an extensive background of successful postal experience in San Francisco, San Diego, and Los Angeles prior to taking the oath of office in Fresno. Since arriving in Fresno, he has dedicated himself to improving customer satisfaction and serving the community members in numerous ways.

As the population of Fresno grew, Stephen was instrumental in increasing the number of postal stations by opening Post Office Express, Cedar Station, Blythe Station, Sunnyside Station, and Ashlan Park Station. From 1994 through 1999 he served as Chairman of the Fresno/Madera County Combined Federal Campaign where he helped raise over \$500,000 for local charities. He has also served on the Board of Directors of Fresno United Way and as President of the Federal Executive Association. Stephen has actively motivated postal employees to volunteer and contribute in the community with teams in events like the Juvenile Diabetes Walk and the American Cancer Society Run, which help raise money locally for worthy causes.

Mr. Hawkins has hosted several stamp release events, including the Breast Cancer Stamp, the Honoring Those Who Served Stamp, the Hospice Stamp, and the Adoption Stamp. He has also sponsored the Youth for Art artists, whose paintings are still located in the lobby of the Main Office Station. Stephen has worked with the Sister Cities Organization and made a presentation and tour of the Fresno Postal Facilities to our sister city from China. Mr. Hawkins has received national recognition by becoming the only Postmaster in the United States to be presented the prestigious Benjamin Award for outstanding communications and community outreach accomplishments four years in a row.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize Postmaster Stephen J. Hawkins for his numerous contributions to his community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Postmaster Hawkins many more years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MERYL GORDON

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY
OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor a special American who will be honored this Saturday, February 3 in New York City. Every generation has its rites of passage, and for those of us born in the

years when Harry Truman brought honor and integrity to the White House, the occasion with which we boomers have recently become most familiar is the celebration of one's 50th birthday. It is in that spirit that I mark the arrival of my dear friend, Meryl Gordon, at that half-century mark today, January 31, 2001.

Our fellowship began in Japan back in the days when there was another President Bush in the White House and, over the past decade, we have shared both literal typhoons (19 including Fukuoka, Japan, 1991) and the successes and occasional storms of everyday life.

Some of those who still fit the chronological categories of "twenty-somethings" or even "thirty-somethings" might not understand that a 50th birthday is a particularly joyous occasion. This milestone serves as an apt moment to take stock of one's life, for it is a time when you have the health, the energy and the idealism to still achieve your fondest dreams. For someone like Meryl—a highly respected magazine writer who is a Contributing Editor of "New York" magazine and lives in that legendary metropolis—a 50th birthday is a wonderful vantage point from which to realize that she has been blessed with professional renown. Her essays and articles touch the heart, the funny bone, and the conscience of our nation. She is also fortunate to have a joyful marriage to esteemed writer, pundit, and comic Walter Shapiro; doting parents, Adelle and David Gordon of Rochester, N.Y. and a large and nurturing circle of friends who have come from far and wide to salute her tonight.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Meryl Gordon on this milestone and wish her continued success and happiness in her next half century.

IN RECOGNITION OF H. MICKEY
McCABE, ANNUAL HONOREE OF
IRELAND'S 32

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize H. Mickey McCabe, one of three honorees at the annual dinner-dance hosted by Ireland's 32 on January 19, 2001. Mr. McCabe was honored for his accomplishments and for his continued dedication to the improvement of the quality of life for the residents of Bayonne, New Jersey.

Mr. McCabe has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to the safety and welfare of his community: He is the founder and president of McCabe, and he recently established the Bayonne Community Bank. His service commitments to the community of Bayonne are numerous: coordinator for the Hudson County New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management; state president of the Medical Transportation Association of New Jersey for more than 5 years; commissioner of the Bayonne Alcohol Beverage Control Board; chairman of the 2000 Bayonne Mayoral Task Force; past president of the Bayonne Uptown Merchants Association; and member of the board of directors of the Bayonne Chamber of Commerce.

In addition, Mr. McCabe is the founding president of the American Heart Association, Bayonne Chapter; treasurer of D.A.R.E., Bayonne Chapter; and citywide chairman of the Bayonne Police Bulletproof Vest Fund Drive; and he is a founding member of the Bayonne Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee. He is an honorary lifetime member of the Police Benevolent Association, Local 7, and a recipient of the Boy Scout Council Distinguished Citizens Award, among other awards.

Mr. McCabe is married to Judith P. McCabe, and is the father of two children: Allison (27) and Michael (23).

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing H. Mickey McCabe for his important contributions to the community of Bayonne, New Jersey.

FAREWELL CELEBRATION
HONORING DR. NAFIS SADIK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the world's champion for international family planning and women's empowerment and one of the world's most powerful women, Dr. Nafis Sadik.

I am continually amazed by Dr. Sadik's accomplishments. She began her career at the United Nations as the head of UNFPA's Program Branch under the leadership of Rafael Salas. Dr. Salas used to regularly send Nafis to attend high-level U.N. meetings where she was the only woman in the room.

Not only that, but she was a woman representing the Population Fund, not high on the U.N.'s most favored agency list, and even worse, she was advocating for women. And, as you would guess, she was usually ignored. However these men didn't know whom they were dealing with. Dr. Sadik was undaunted by her male colleagues and regularly spoke with a clear voice and a courageous voice until she was heard.

Now, she is in her 13th year as the head of UNFPA. The first woman to ever be appointed to head a United Nations agency.

Dr. Sadik's passion and commitment to international family planning doesn't come from reciting a UNFPA manual, but learning first hand what access to family planning means for women and families around the world.

As the director of the women's and children's wards of Pakistani hospitals, she helped shape the country's family planning programs. She saw and heard first hand women who didn't want more children, but didn't have the access to the resources or the power to make the decisions they needed to plan their families.

It's this experience that resonates in Dr. Sadik's words and commands our attention. I owe a great deal to Dr. Sadik. It was her words and leadership that helped my colleagues and I restore the U.S. contribution to UNFPA in 1999.